



About our Agency

The Washington State Patrol (WSP) is a professional public safety agency made up of dedicated professionals who work hard to improve the quality of life as well as prevent the unnecessary loss of life on a daily basis. The WSP has approximately 2200 employees and is organized into six bureaus: Field Operations, Technical Services, Forensic Laboratory Services, Fire Protection, Investigative Services, and Management Services. More than half of all WSP employees work in a variety of non-commissioned jobs to support the Patrol's mission.

Mission Statement

The WSP makes a difference every day, enhancing the safety and security of our state by providing the best public safety services.

Vision

The WSP's programs and operations exemplify the highest standards of professionalism. We achieve our mission through accountability and continuous performance improvement,

Media and Community Relations Officer

Recruitment #: 060307WSP
Location: Olympia, WA
Working Time: Full-Time
Appointment Type: Exempt
Opens: 6/13/2006
Closes: Open Until Filled

Position Profile:

This is an exempt, at-will position (special deputy per RCW 43.43.020) appointed by the Chief and reporting to the Captain of the WSP Government and Media Relations. The position qualifies under the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) and standard state employee benefits.

Primary Duties:

- Responsible for the continued development and day to day coordination of the statewide media and community relations program;
- Direct supervision responsibilities of Public Information Officers, Audio Visual, TV, Media-Professional, and department photographer;
- Serve as a day-to-day media contact for the WSP. Will be a contact person for the media on separate key policy areas, including, traffic law enforcement, transportation, government efficiency, public safety and other important matters;
- Establish and maintain excellent relationships with the news media, public officials, policymakers and the public;
- Respond to media and public requests for information in a timely, accurate and professional manner;
- Play a key role in all communications planning and execution;
- Develop and implement proactive statewide media relations strategies supporting both print and broadcast media;
- Coordinate media events, news conferences, community events and forums;
- Develop and foster collaborative relationships between the WSP Government and Media Relations Office and counterparts in state agencies;
- Research and write media-support materials, including news releases, fact sheets and white papers;
- Research and write byline articles;
- Routinely monitor and disseminate state, national and international news on key issues;
- Work closely with the WSP executive and command staff on communications initiatives;
- Oversee publishing the WSP's monthly newsletter;
- Represent and coordinate the WSP participation at community events;
- Produce original content for the WSP website;
- Assist with the internal communications programs;
- Monitor results of public relations plans and activities

Compensation

\$55,000 - \$75,000 per year, depending on qualifications. Outstanding benefits including health, dental, vision, life and long-term disability insurance; 12 – 22 days of vacation per year; eleven paid holidays; twelve days of paid sick leave per

supported by a strong leadership and a system of effective communication. A committed workforce initiates partnerships and strategic alliances to collaborate on public safety concerns to improve the safety and security of citizens and commerce.

Our performance consistently earns the trust and confidence of the public. The legislature supports the WSP's need to recruit and retain a qualified workforce equipped with information, technology, and physical resources necessary to meet our mission.

Benefits

- Competitive salaries
- Excellent health and retirement benefits
- Generous paid vacation and holidays
- Promotion opportunities
- Continuous learning opportunities
- Talented co-workers
- Meaningful and ethical work
- Serving citizens and making a difference

Location

The WSP is headquarters is located in Olympia, but has offices throughout the state.

How to Apply

E-mail:

heather.wolfe@wsp.wa.gov

FAX: (360) 704-2297

Mail: Washington State Patrol
Attn: Heather Wolfe
211 11th Avenue SE
P.O. Box 42620
Olympia, WA 98504-2620

year; dependent care assistance program; employee assistance program; deferred compensation plans; state retirement plans; Commute Trip Reduction Incentives; training; and credit union membership

Desirable Qualifications:

- Bachelor's Degree from an accredited institution of higher education in journalism, communications, public relations or related field;
- At least five years of communications experience in journalism or public relations;
- Extensive media relations experience required;
- Communication program management and supervisory experience;
- Highly developed written, verbal and interpersonal communications skills;
- Demonstrated ability to produce high-quality work under tight deadlines, communicate complex information to diverse audiences, and write for different media;
- Solid judgment with high standards of accuracy, responsiveness, integrity and discretion;
- Keen understanding of news media and proficient in Associated Press (AP) Style;
- Exceptionally detail-oriented with strong project and time management skills;
- Able to define and manage several projects simultaneously;
- Strong analytical, problem-solving and teamwork skills;
- Internet-savvy with solid technology experience and interest;
- Motivated self-starter with positive attitude;
- Experience working in a dynamic work environment essential;
- Proficient in Microsoft Office; HTML, and online media experience.

Special Note:

Candidates who are invited to the background and polygraph exam will be required to sign a waiver authorizing the Washington State Patrol to access any and all professional and personal information to include any records of a confidential or privileged nature. The information obtained during this process will not be made available or accessible to the candidate. Background investigations are part of the pre-employment selection process and are not a commitment to employment. Finalist may be scheduled for an additional interview.

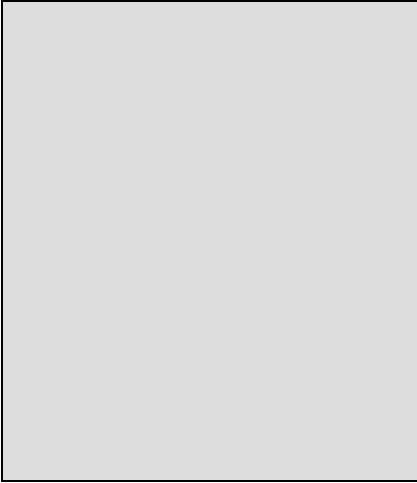
Who May Apply:

This recruitment is open to anyone who meets the qualifications.

How to Apply:

Persons interested in this position may apply by submitting a letter of interest, resume, two writing samples, a draft document outlining a community relations strategy for the WSP, and a [WSP Personal Background Evaluation \(PBE\) form](#). Please note the WSP has specified hiring standards outlined on the PBE that each employee must meet, due to the nature and security requirements of the position. The hiring authority reserves the right and may exercise the option to make a hiring decision at any time. Candidate evaluation will be ongoing. Please note the Department of Personnel will be transitioning to e-recruiting, a new applicant tracking system, which is expected to go live October 2, 2006. Applicants will need to re-apply for placement on registers in the new system after October 2, 2006. It will be to the applicant's advantage to submit materials as soon as possible to:

**Washington State Patrol
Attn: Heather Wolfe
211 11th Avenue SE**



PO Box 42620
Olympia WA 98504-2620
E-mail: heather.wolfe@wsp.wa.gov

Keep a copy of your application.
You may be asked to provide them if contacted for an interview.

The State of Washington is an equal opportunity employer. Persons with a disability who need assistance in the application or testing process, or those needing this announcement in an alternative format, may call (360) 664-1960 or Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (360) 664-6211. For questions about this recruitment call (360) 664-6260.